



**NEVADA
HEALTH
RESPONSE**

ESSENTIAL STATUS CLARIFICATION FOR FUNERAL HOMES

April 6, 2020

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the COVID-19 respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus is now present in over 171 nations worldwide, including the United States. On March 17, 2020, Governor Sisolak issued a [non-essential business closure order](#) to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the State of Nevada. The first cases of COVID-19 in Nevada were reported in Clark County, and have since been reported in counties statewide.

As funeral homes have been deemed an essential businessⁱ, please review the following information and implement preventative measures in continued daily operations:

- Funeral homes **are** considered an essential service through essential healthcare/public health servicesⁱ.
- Under this provision, essential services **are** expected to abide by social distancing protocols outlined by the [CDC](#).
- The [National Funeral Directors Association](#) advises funeral homes to abide by protocols outlined in this guidance.
- The [CDC](#) provides frequently asked questions related to COVID-19 and funerals.
- **NEVADA Restrictions on Public Gatherings:** On March 24, Governor Sisolak issued a directive relating to [public gatherings](#), requiring individuals to **avoid gathering in groups of greater than 10** in public and private spaces, unless the individuals live in the same household, are working or shopping at an essential business; or are providing an essential service. This directive includes outdoor areas.
 - In determining whether to conduct funeral and memorial services, please take into consideration [CDC social distancing guidelines](#), ensuring individual attendees are provided with a minimum of six feet of separation between persons.
 - The National Funeral Directors Association has [alternative suggestions](#) for funeral and memorial services Funeral Homes can offer to clients while maintaining proper social distancing practices.

ⁱ See [Governor Sisolak Guidance: Directive 003 – Essential & Non-Essential Businesses \(UPDATED\)](#) and [CISA Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure workforce](#).